

George Washington to Robert Magaw, August 16, 1775, Orders, The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. John C. Fitzpatrick, Editor.

To THE OFFICER COMMANDING A PARTY OF RIFLEMEN, TO CAPE ANN

Head Quarters, August 16, 1775.

Sir: You are to proceed with the Detachment of Rifle-Men under your Command, to Cape Ann, where you are to endeavour not only to protect the Inhabitants from all Attempts of the Enemy; but to do your utmost to distress and annoy any Detachment from the ministerial Army that may be sent from Boston, to plunder, or destroy that Settlement. Upon your March, and during your Residence at Cape Ann, as well as upon your March back to Camp, you will observe strict Discipline and on no Account suffer any under your Command to pillage or marraud. Upon your Arrival at Cape Ann, you will dispatch a Messenger to acquaint the General with the State you find Things in there: and you will frequently report to the General all extraordinary Occurrences that may happen. I am, etc.¹

¹he draft is in the writing of Thomas Mifflin.